

**REMARKS**

The specification has been amended to incorporate the paragraph regarding cross-reference to related applications and statement regarding federally funded research.

The claims have been amended as shown above. In particular, multiple dependencies have been removed. Typographical and grammatical changes have also been made. Applicants expressly reserve their right under 35 USC §121 to file one or more continuation or divisional applications directed to the subject matter of any canceled claims during the pendency of this application.

Entry of the foregoing amendments is requested prior to substantive examination of pending claims 1-45, 47 and 48.

Please direct all further communications regarding this application to:

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Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 21, 2006

By: \_\_\_\_\_



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